

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 25th October 1890.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.		Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	
BENGALI.						
Fortnightly.						
1	"Ahammadi"	...	Tangail, Mymensingh	450	15th Oct. 1890.	
2	"Hitakari"	...	Kushtea	30		
3	"Kasipore Nibasi"	...	Kasipore, Burrisal	.....	
4	"Navamihir"	...	Ghatail, Mymensingh	.....	15th ditto.
5	"Sahayogi"	...	Burrisal	.....	
6	"Uluberia Darpan"	...	Uluberia	.....	
Weekly.						
7	"Arya Darpan"	...	Calcutta	102	13th ditto.	
8	"Bangavasi"	...	Ditto	20,000	18th ditto.	
9	"Banganibasi"	...	Ditto	.....	10th ditto.
10	"Burdwan Sanjivani"	...	Burdwan	302	14th ditto.	
11	"Charuvarta"	...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	13th ditto.	
12	"Dacca Prakash"	...	Dacca	1,200	17th ditto.	
13	"Education Gazette"	...	Hooghly	885		
14	"Gramvasi"	...	Ramkristopore, Howrah	800		
15	"Hindu Ranjika"	...	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	300	13th and 17th Oct. 1890.	
16	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi"	...	Berhampore	.....	16th Oct. 1890.
17	"Navayuga"	...	Calcutta	.....	
18	"Pratikar"	...	Berhampore	600		
19	"Rungpore Dikprakash"	...	Kakinia, Rungpore	.....	15th ditto.
20	"Sahachar"	...	Calcutta	500		
21	"Sakti"	...	Dacca	.....	
22	"Samaj-o-Sahitya"	...	Garibpore, Nuddea	.....	14th ditto.
23	"Samaya"	...	Calcutta	3,806	12th ditto.	
24	"Sanjivani"	...	Ditto	4,000	17th ditto.	
25	"Sansodhini"	...	Chittagong	.....	11th ditto.
26	"Saraswat Patra"	...	Dacca	300		
27	"Som Prakash"	...	Calcutta	1,000		
28	"Sudhakar"	...	Ditto	2,580		
29	"Sulabh Samvad"	...	Ditto	.....	
30	"Surabhi o Pataka"	...	Chandernagore	700		
Daily.						
31	"Banga Vidya Prakashika"	...	Calcutta	500		17th ditto.
32	"Bengal Exchange Gazette"	...	Ditto	.....	
33	"Dainik o Samachar Chandrika"	...	Ditto	1,500		
34	"Samvad Prabhakar"	...	Ditto	800		
35	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya"	...	Ditto	300	19th ditto.	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.						
Weekly.						
36	"Dacca Gazette"	...	Dacca	.....	
HINDI.						
Monthly.						
37	"Darjeeling Mission ke Masik Samachar Patrika."	...	Darjeeling	20		
38	"Kshatriya Patrika"	...	Patna	200		
Weekly.						
39	"Aryavarta"	...	Calcutta	800		
40	"Behar Bandhu"	...	Bankipore	.....	
41	"Bharat Mitra"	...	Calcutta	1,653		
42	"Desi Vyapari"	...	Ditto	.....	
43	"Sar Sudhanidhi"	...	Ditto	500		
44	"Uchit Bakti"	...	Ditto	4,500		
PERSIAN.						
Weekly.						
45	"Jaum-Jahanomah"	...	Calcutta	250		

No.	Names of newspapers.		Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	URDU.				
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	" Aftal Alum Arrah "	...	Arrah	300	
47	" Al Punch "	...	Bankipore	.....
48	" Anis "	...	Patna	.....
49	"Gauhur "	...	Calcutta	196	
50	" Raisul-Akhbari-Moorshidabad "	...	Murshidabad	.....
51	" Urdu Guide Darussaltanat "	...	Calcutta	340	
	URIA.				
	<i>Monthly.</i>				
52	" Asha "	...	Cuttack	.....
53	" Pradíp "	...	Ditto	.....
54	" Samyabadi "	...	Ditto	.....
55	" Taraka and Subhavártá "	...	Ditto	.....
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
56	" Dipaka "	...	Cuttack	.....
57	" Samvad Váhika "	...	Balasore	205	
58	" Urya and Navasamvád "	...	Ditto	600	
59	" Utkal Dípiká "	...	Cuttack	444	
	PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
	BENGALI.				
	<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
60	" Paridarshak "	...	Sylhet	450	
61	" Silchar "	...	Silchar	500	7th Oct. 1890.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

THE *Banganibási*, of the 10th October, says that, for the following reasons, the police are a source of constant dread to the people :—

Police reform.

BANGANIBASI,
Oct. 10th, 1890.

- (1).—The sort of men employed in police work, who are generally hard-hearted and devoid of common sense.
- (2).—The tendency of police officers to oppress the innocent and weak.
- (3).—The corruption which prevails in the police.
- (4).—The powers vested in all police officers down to constables, which give them ample opportunities to oppress the people.

A police officer is, for the above reasons, more dreaded by the people than the District Judge, the Commissioner, or the Viceroy himself. Common people avoid coming in contact with the police so long as they can help it, even at the cost of the security of their lives and property.

As regards the Committee that has been appointed to suggest reforms in the police, the writer is of opinion that non-official members should have been appointed to the Committee from the beginning. These would have acted as a check upon the natural disposition of the official members to vote in favour of the police. The present composition of the Committee leads to the conclusion that the only object of its deliberations will be to devise means of increasing the rigour of the police with the view of striking greater terror into the hearts of the people. If this be the real motive of the Government in undertaking the proposed police reform, the people should deprecate any change of the present state of things, extremely unsatisfactory though it is.

2. The *Grámvási*, of the 13th October, is at a loss to see why no native gentleman has been appointed as a member of the Police Committee. Perhaps

The Police Committee.

GRAMVASI,
Oct. 13th, 1890.

the omission in this respect is to be accounted for by Government's distrust of the natives. The Lieutenant-Governor, however, deserves credit for his efforts at police reform.

(g)—Railways and communication, including canals and irrigation.

3. The *Sanjivani*, of the 11th October, says that up to the present time no toll has ever been levied on boats plying in the Midnapore Canal within its first mile.

A proposed toll in the Midnapore canal.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 11th, 1890.

But a proposal has been recently made to the Executive Engineer, Kansai Division, to levy tolls on all boats which will enter the canal. The proposed impost will greatly inconvenience the traders of the place, who have to employ small boats in carrying goods from and to the large boats which find it dangerous to enter the Kansai river. It is hoped that the Executive Engineer will veto the proposal.

4. A correspondent of the *Education Gazette*, of the 17th October,

The steamer service on the Diamond Harbour line.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Oct. 17th, 1890.

says that as seats for higher class passengers on board the railway steamers which ply between Diamond Harbour and Tamluk *viâ* Kukurahati and Geokhali are provided with no sort of protection against rain, passengers using those seats often get their clothes drenched by rain. As for lower class passengers, they are frequently insulted and ill-treated by serangs and khalasis. Passengers have also to wade through water both when they reach the boats which carry them to the steamers, and when they reach the shore after alighting from the boats. Those who get on boats at Geokhali have to pay toll to a Hindustani *lathial*, who levies the same by order of the Raja of Mahisadal.

The levy of this toll is often accompanied by incidents of a grossly indecent nature. The Railway authorities are asked to enquire into the above matters, and to make proper arrangements for the convenience of the passengers.

(h)—General.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 11th, 1890.

5. The *Sanjivani*, of the 11th October, says that great changes have taken place in the Excise Department in the course of the last two years. Thanks to

The Excise Department.

the Lieutenant-Governor, the outstills which were ruining the country have been for the most part closed. Mr. Caine and others, who have laboured in the cause of abstinence, are deserving of the best thanks of the people.

GRAMVASI,
Oct. 13th, 1890.

6. The *Gramvasi*, of the 13th October, says that Sir Steuart Bayley should not have laid down his office at a time when the greater part of the country is under

Sir Steuart Bayley's retirement.

water, and hundreds of people who have been made houseless by the floods are clamouring for food, the more so as the post to which he has been appointed is less honourable and less lucrative than the one he now holds. Though drawing salaries from the State, the rulers of Indian provinces like Sir Steuart Bayley are not to be regarded in the light of ordinary paid officials, nor is the nature of their work to be judged by the amount of their salary. Such being the case, one should have expected that a conscientious man like Sir Steuart Bayley would attach greater importance to the interests of the people confided to his care than to personal considerations. Those who have been named as Sir Steuart's successors have long ceased to have any connection with Bengal, and none of them is likely to prove successful as a ruler of Bengal at such a critical time as the present. It will be very difficult for a new man to break the clique of Secretariat officials—a clique which proved too powerful even for men like Sir Richard Temple and Sir Rivers Thompson. Sir Steuart Bayley himself was occasionally misled by it into doing objectionable acts. But His Honour is a man of a liberal heart, and it is for this reason that the writer wishes for an extension of his term of office.

GRAMVASI.

Commutation of a sentence of transportation for life.

7. The same paper asks the Lieutenant-Governor to commute the sentence of transportation for life, which has been passed upon Tarini Galui, of Uluberia, for having murdered his unchaste wife.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Oct. 14th, 1890.

8. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 14th October, says that as the income-tax is the only tax paid by the English officials in this country, the Governor-General

The income-tax.

has refused to consent to its abolition. But why oppress the entire population of the country for the sake of a few English officials? Is it not proper to make a separate arrangement for the officials, and grant exemption to all others? As it is, the tax is often unjustly assessed on traders. At Raniganj a trader used to pay Rs. 42 as income-tax, but the assessing officer has since increased the amount of the tax to Rs. 156! It is the duty of Government to put down oppression of this nature.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

Appointment of pleaders and barristers as Deputy Magistrates.

9. The same paper says that as stated by Government in the course of its resolution appointing the Police Committee, Deputy Magistrates, previous to their appointment, have very little experience of court business. And as a knowledge of the law rather than that of history or English literature is of the utmost importance to Deputy Magistrates, they should be henceforward selected from among pleaders and barristers whose number is gradually increasing in the country.

10. The *Sahachar*, of the 15th October, condemns the Indian Midland Railway compensation resolution of the Government of India, and says that now that the aggrieved Chiefs have come to learn the views of Government in the matter, they will not dare to claim compensation. But they will nevertheless think that they have been unjustly dealt with. The public is also of the same opinion. Government has acted in this matter like the man in the Bengali story, who, instead of taking any direct measures, resorted to the indirect but effective method of ploughing the courtyard of a house for the purpose of dislodging its owner therefrom.

SAHACHAR,
Oct. 15th, 1890.

11. The *Bengal Exchange Gazette*, of the 17th October, says that the English administration of India at the present time has become very like the administration of the country under Warren Hastings.

*BENGAL EXCHANGE
GAZETTE*,
Oct. 17th, 1890.

India's money is wantonly squandered, and no one can be made answerable for the waste. Regular plunder is going on on all sides. Everybody takes what he can lay his hands upon. And all that the rulers have in view is somehow or other to provide for their kith and kin. And the way is kept perfectly clear for these jobberies. Take, for instance, the announcement made by the Secretary of State that thirty-two men will be taken into the Indian Civil Service on the results of the examination in 1892. It is strange how Lord Lansdowne's Government could so early ascertain the number of vacancies that would have to be filled up two years hence. The writer also points out in this connection that though facilities for entering the Civil Service have been afforded to the natives of India by raising the age-limit in that examination, attempts are being made at the same time to throw obstacles in their way by raising the marks in Greek and Latin, and by introducing physical exercise as a test in the examination. But the descendants of the Aryans are quite able to surmount all such obstacles. Certainly people who can distinguish themselves as soldiers in far Brazil can achieve anything in this world.

12. The *Bangabasi*, of the 18th October, has the following :—

The docks that are being built at Kidderpore for the benefit of the English merchants with the public money of India have come to grief. On the eve of

BANGABASI,
Oct. 18th, 1890.

completion the walls have sunk and split owing to water having been admitted into the docks for testing their strength. Controversies are going on as to the advisability of having undertaken the construction of the works at all, but they will have no other effect than the waste of so much paper and ink. India shall, all the same, have to suffer the loss of the capital that has been already laid out and that will still be laid out.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

13. The *Sanjivani*, of the 11th October, says that the Indian Emigration Act, 1883, will undergo an amendment at the meeting of the Supreme Legislative Council to be held on the 16th instant. It has not yet been given out which sections of the Act will be amended, and the only information that the public possess about the matter is that an amending Bill was referred to a Select Committee for consideration. It is this sort of law-making that has made the people so anxious to see a reconstitution of the Legislative Councils.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 11th, 1890.

14. The *Sahachar*, of the 15th October, says that as printers of newspapers have no control over the writings of editors, they should be exempted from the operation of the law of libel.

SAHACHAR,
Oct. 15th, 1890.

Exemption of printers from the operation of the law of libel.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Oct. 19th, 1890.

15. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandriká*, of the 19th October, has the following on the deposition of the Nawab of Cambay:—

Deposition of the Nawab of Cambay.

According to the brother of the Nawab, the English and not the Nawab are responsible for the recent riot which occurred at Cambay. Mr. Syam Rao was appointed to the Dewanship of the State by Mr. Shephard, and was guided all through the present rent difficulty by the advice of Mr. Cook, Political Officer. If now the riot is caused by the fault of the Dewan, surely the responsibility rests upon the English. What the brother of the Nawab says seems to be perfectly true. The rule requiring the payment of revenue in money instead of in kind was introduced at the instance of the English political officer; the assessment of revenue was also increased at his advice, or perhaps by his order, and it is also he who led the regiment of English soldiers against the people. Such being the facts of the case, if the English depose the Nawab, their cup of iniquity will be full to the brim. Is not the scene which has been enacted in Cashmere sufficient for them? Lord Dufferin has revived the policy of annexation which was in vogue before the breaking out of the mutiny. Burma, Sikkim, and Cambay have been already annexed, and one does not know whose turn will come next. Cashmere has been taken for five years, and Cambay is being taken for two years. But this much is certain that neither the Maharaja Pertab Singh nor the Nawab will be ever again allowed to rule their respective territories. Before the Sepoy mutiny, the English used to annex and rule Native States in their own name, but now they have become wiser and do the same thing *benami*. Thus, though Colonel Nisbet is ruling Cashmere, the country is still declared to be under the native rule. In the same manner an English political officer will henceforward reign in Cambay.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 11th, 1890.

Flood and distress in the Bogra district.

16. The *Sanjivani*, of the 11th October, has the following:—

The village of Chhatingram, and some of the adjoining villages within the jurisdiction of the Adamdia thana, in the Bogra district, were all of a sudden completely flooded. The villages themselves are situated on high ground, and the residents, therefore, had never had any experience of a flood. They were in consequence not at all prepared for such a contingency, and this has aggravated their misery. The houses have come down, standing crops have been destroyed, and granaries have been washed away. Some cattle and one man have also perished. The wails of the people are to be heard across the waters, but as no boats are available, it is difficult to send them relief. The following is a list of the villages that have suffered more or less by the recent floods:—

Chhatingram.	Antahar.
Ambaria Dhultair.	Bagbati.
Nunnagar (<i>alias</i> Tilukpur).	Sagarpur.
Durgapur Sangrampur.	Nunaidighi.

The people have taken shelter on the high banks of ponds, or are living on bamboo scaffoldings.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BANGANIBASI,
Oct. 10th, 1890.

17. The *Banganibási*, of the 10th October, says that Sir Steuart's untimely departure from India is a real calamity to the people of the Lower Provinces.

His Honour possessed all the qualities of a good ruler. The memory of

these and of the endeavours made by him to remove the grievances of the people has made them extremely sorry at the news of his approaching retirement. Sir Steuart Bayley's administration of these provinces has been marked by impartiality. It has been during his rule that the statutory civilians have been placed in charge of districts, and natives have been appointed to high public offices. His services to the country in the cause of self-government during the administration of Lord Ripon will long dwell in the memory of the people. Sir Steuart has done his best to remove the differences that have sprung up between Hindus and Mahomedans. His Durbhunga speech is an expression of the noble policy which His Honour has all along followed in governing the country. Nothing can be more satisfactory than the way in which His Honour called upon the people themselves to help the Government in putting down the quarrels that were taking place all over the country between Hindus and Mahomedans. Sir Steuart has also done his best to efface the difference that hitherto existed in the treatment of these two peoples by the Government in the matter of employment in the public service. To crown all, Sir Steuart had in Sir John Edgar a counsellor who was cast in the same mould as his master, and the noble efforts of the two saved the classical Sanskrit lore of India from falling into decay. In fact Sir Steuart Bayley's administration inaugurated a new era in the history of the Lower Provinces. The poor people of those provinces now approach His Honour with the only offering it is in their power to make as a token of their gratitude, namely, their tears. In their present distressed and destitute condition that is the only offering they can make to their departing Lieutenant-Governor, and it is hoped that His Honour will accept it spontaneous, though poor, as it is. Not that Sir Steuart Bayley was without any blemishes, for no earthly thing can boast of perfection, but they are too few not to be eclipsed by his good qualities.

18. The same paper says that it has nothing to say against Pundit Mahesh Chandra Nyayaratna for sending up such an opinion to Government on the

The Durga Puja holidays.

Durga Puja holidays as he thought proper. All that can be said is that he may be a Hindu and that he may be a Pundit, but that assuredly he is not a pundit of the Hindus. He may enforce his opinions in his own college, but they are not accepted by the Hindu community. The Hindus do not regard him as a greater authority on social and religious matters than a Monier Williams or a Max Müller. The Hindu Pundits of Nuddea, Santipore, Krishnagore, Bikrampore, Purvasthali, Benares, Bhatpara, and Calcutta have published a joint opinion as to the number of the Durga Puja holidays which should be allowed to Hindu employes in all offices. They affirm that Hindus should not be made to work during the days beginning from the fifth day of the waxing moon to the first day after the new moon. The opinion, they say, expressed by Pundit Nyayaratna is erroneous and not consistent with the Hindu shastras. To force any Hindu to work on any of the days falling within the period mentioned above, simply on the strength of that opinion, will be laying the axe at the root of the Hindu religion. Pundit Nyayaratna may be a man high in office, intelligent, able, and respected by the Government and the public, but in spite of all this the pundits referred to above will not regard him as a Hindu pundit, or a Hindu professor, or one whose opinion in religious matters can be accepted.

Certainly the Government will not do so great an injustice to the Hindu community as to curtail the holidays simply for the benefit of a handful of Christian merchants and traders. All Hindus whom the curtailment of the holidays will affect ought to send up a strong protest to Government, and the Government should reconsider the decision it has already arrived at.

BANGANIBASI,
Oct. 10th, 189

BANGANIBASI,
Oct. 10th, 1890.

19. The same paper says that if the age of consent is raised the change will affect all the nationalities that inhabit India. But it will be specially

The age of consent.

injurious to the Hindus, inasmuch as cohabitation and procreation are matters which are closely connected with their religion. Government will, therefore, be interfering with the religion of the Hindus by raising the present age-limit. It is a pity that some wrong-headed Hindus have joined the movement for raising the age of consent. The best thing to do for the Hindus, if they see anything wrong in the existing custom, is to introduce the necessary reforms themselves without taking any help from the legislature.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Oct. 14th, 1890.

Sir Steuart Bayley's retirement.

20. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 14th October, has the following on Sir Steuart

Bayley's retirement :—

Bengal had few Governors so firm, so discriminating, and so free from prejudices like Sir Steuart Bayley. His Honour never allowed himself to be misled by the evil counsels of bad advisers or the tricks (praheliká) of Anglo-Indians. No one who came to him for justice went away disappointed. He was very kind to his subordinate officials, and kept the civilian body in awe. Ever ready to uphold the cause of justice, he kept civilians like Messrs. Beadon and Phillips under check. It is through his favour that Maharaja Bijaya Chand is now sitting on the throne of Burdwan. And it is to his tact that the settlement of the quarrel among the members of the Burdwan Raj family is due, and for this His Honour deserves the special thanks of that family. By his good qualities he has endeared himself to the people of Burdwan and the public in general. Every one is sorry at his untimely retirement. Justice, however, constrains the writer to say that his treatment of the three Assistant Surgeons is a blot on Sir Steuart Bayley's good name. Be that as it may, it must be admitted that he deserves the thanks of the people of Bengal, who have lived happily under his rule. May God grant long life and prosperity to His Honour

SAHACHAR,
Oct. 15th, 1890.

21. The *Sahachar*, of the 15th October, says that during the earlier years of English rule in India people thought of the turbulent times that had gone by, and set a high value on the state of comparative

Prosecution of the native newspapers for libel.

peace and security which they enjoyed under the English. The state of communications was very imperfect, and the people of one village were often ignorant of what was going on in the next. English education had made very little progress in the country, and there were no newspapers to ventilate the grievances of the people, who lived in a blissful state of ignorance and contentment. Their aspirations were very limited, and the office of a sheristadar in a collectorate was considered to be the highest post that could fall to the lot of a native. But with the spread of English education and the construction of railroads in the country this state of things has long disappeared. The facilities of communication afforded by railways have brought the different provinces of India into a close union and united their people for a common purpose. A vigilant press has sprung into existence and is bringing to light cases of injustice and oppression occurring even in the remotest corners of the empire. The people have now understood their rights, and their aspirations have continued to rise, so much so that even High Court Judgeships do not now satisfy them. This state of things is looked upon with alarm by a certain class of Anglo-Indian officials, who gnash their teeth in anger and ask, 'where will all this end.' They are for curtailing the liberty of the press. But as the ministry at home will permit no such thing, they have been advising Government to prosecute the writers in the native press for libel for their attacks on its own officials. And having regard to the fact that provincial rulers have

to depend in a great measure on their Secretaries, and that the Secretaries often take their views from Magistrates and Commissioners, it is not at all likely that the matter will be discussed in a cool and impartial spirit by Local Governments. But it should be borne in mind that no Government has ever come out of a libel suit with unsullied reputation. The income-tax, the Simla exodus, and the expenditure on frontier railways have already caused great dissatisfaction in the country. Why increase this dissatisfaction by prosecuting the native press for libel? If Government does not mean to convert India into another Ireland, it should give up the idea. Lord Lansdowne should not, in this matter, allow himself to be guided by the counsels of his civilian advisers. He should bear in mind that the difficulties of ruling India have greatly increased, and that even Lord Dufferin, who had earned a good name as Governor-General of Canada and as Ambassador in Russia and Turkey, failed as a Governor-General of India. It is therefore very desirable that His Excellency should in this matter, as well as in all others, act like a true English statesman, otherwise he will leave behind him a bad name like Lord Lytton. India has changed, and old methods of governing will not satisfy the aspirations of her people.

22. The *Bengal Exchange Gazette*, of the 17th October, contrasts the noble excise policy of the Prime Minister of Portugal with that of the Indian Government, and says that the principle by which the authorities in this country are guided in excise matters is to encourage intoxication of all sorts among the people, and thus to urge them to the last stage of human depravity. The sole aim of the rulers of this country is to reduce the Indians to extreme poverty and imbecility, and to amass for themselves wealth which will suffice to secure competency for their own descendants to the fifty-second generation. Rulers like Lord William Bentinck governed the country in that noble spirit in which an empire like India ought to be governed, but the present Viceroy, Lord Lansdowne, is acquiring a bad name for himself by conducting the administration in a different spirit.

BENGAL EXCHANGE
GAZETTE,
Oct. 17th, 1890.

23. The *Bangabási*, of the 18th October, says that as there is no hope that Government will ever stop the sale of adulterated articles of food lest any such step should affect the interests of the English merchants and traders, all that the people have to do under the circumstances is to eschew altogether the use of machine-made food articles, and to restrict themselves completely to the use of hand-made articles of food. This alone will put a check upon adulteration.

BANGABASI,
Oct. 18th, 1890.

24. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 19th October, says that Government has dealt a blow to the Durga Pujah holidays, and clerks in many offices have not been granted leave in consequence. In the office of the Consulting Engineer to Government in the Railway Department at least half the number of officers will have to attend office nine days during the Pujah vacation. Nothing like this has happened in any other office. Pandit Mahesha Chandra Nyayaratna's fame has spread everywhere, and people say that he has taken shelter in Madhupur through fear.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Oct. 19th, 1890.

ASSAM PAPERS.

25. The *Silchar*, of the 2nd October, says that the mirasdars in Assam are required by custom to supply, when necessary, *begar* or coolies to Government. This custom of *begar* supply causes very great hardship to them. They have often to pay money in advance to the coolies as a sort of bribe, in order to induce them to join the service of Government. Now that preparations

SILCHAR,
Oct. 2nd, 1890

for an expedition against the Lushais are going on, hundreds of *peruanas* are being issued to mirasdars, requiring them to supply *begar* for the expedition, and peons and the police are quite busy over the matter. But the tea-planters of Assam are also mirasdars, and why are they not required to supply *begar*? There are at least 300 tea-gardens in Assam, and if the owner of each garden is asked to supply one coolie, 300 coolies will be supplied without difficulty. But then the planters are white men, and so they are exempted from the duty which presses so heavily on their native brethren.

NÁRÁYAN CHANDRA BHATTÁCHÁRYYA,

Offg. Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE

The 25th October 1890.